## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Helmut L. Kayan EXAMINER: Michelle Lopez

 APPLICATION NO:
 10/697,523
 GROUP:
 ART UNIT 3721

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 October 30, 2003
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TITLE: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SURGICAL FASTENING

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-4150

## AMENDMENT "A"

Sir:

In response to the Office Action that was mailed on September 12, 2008, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. \$1.8(a)

Nicole Rispone

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted on the date below with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, via electronic submission.

Dated: December 2, 2008